

NORTHEAST OHIO AREAWIDE COORDINATING AGENCY M E M O R A N D U M

TO: Air Quality Subcommittee Members

Samuel Alai, Mayor, City of Broadview Heights, Cuyahoga County
Jeff Brandon, Trustee Chair, Montville Township
Mark Alan Carpenter, P.E., District Environmental Coordinator, ODOT District 12
James W. Dvorak, Commissioner, Geauga County
Maribeth Feke, Director of Planning, Greater Cleveland Regional Transit Authority
Tim Fischer, Manager of the Division of Air Pollution Control, Northeast District Office, Ohio EPA
John R. Hamercheck, Commissioner, Lake County
David G. Hearne, Interim Commissioner, Cleveland Division of Air Quality
Lori Kokoski, Commissioner, Lorain County
Bert Mechenbier, Air Pollution Control Supervisor, Lake County General Health District
Sam Rubens, Administrator, Akron Regional Air Quality Management District
Bryan Sokolowski, Chief of Air Monitoring, Cleveland Department of Public Health

FROM: Jeff Brandon, Chair

DATE: June 14, 2019

**RE: Air Quality Subcommittee
Friday, June 21, 2019 from 9:00 a.m. to 10:30 a.m.**

**NOACA Offices
1299 Superior Avenue, Cleveland, Ohio**

Please note that in addition to the members listed above, any interested Board members are welcome to attend.

I look forward to seeing you on **2st t t s.**



NORTHEAST OHIO AREAWIDE COORDINATING AGENCY
Friday, June 21, 2019 – 9:00 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.
NOACA Offices
1299 Superior Avenue, Cleveland, Ohio 44114

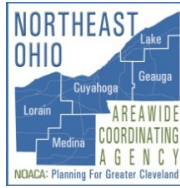
AIR QUALITY SUBCOMMITTEE

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Next Meeting: ***Friday, September 20, 2019 – 9:00 a.m. - 10:30 a.m. NOACA Offices***

Agenda Item No. 1

MINUTES



NOACA Air Quality Subcommittee Meeting
March 15, 2019
NOACA Offices
1299 Superior Avenue, Cleveland, Ohio 44114

Present: Please see the attached attendance record.

Mr. Jeff Brandon, Chair of the Air Quality Subcommittee, convened the meeting at 9:00 a.m.

Meeting Minutes

Mr. David Hearne stated that the following changes should be made to the minutes: Under Complete and Green Streets Policy, the word “typography” should be changed to “topography” in Mr. Dave Schroedel’s comment. Under STOP II Program Corridor Update, the word “deplored” should be changed to “deployed” in the first paragraph.

A motion was made by Mr. Hearne to approve the minutes of the Air Quality Subcommittee meeting held on December 21, 2018, with the above-referenced changes. The motion was seconded by Mr. Schroedel. The motion passed by voice vote.

Public Comments

No public comments were made at this meeting.

ACTION ITEMS

Transportation Conformity Analysis for 2015 Ozone National Ambient Air Quality Standard (NAAQS) Nonattainment Designation

Mr. Tim Kovach stated that NOACA is required to complete a conformity determination within one year of nonattainment designation for NAAQS. He noted that Cuyahoga, Geauga, Lake, Lorain, Medina, Portage, and Summit counties are included in the designated marginal nonattainment area for the 2015 Ozone NAAQS, effective August 3, 2018. Mr. Kovach stated that the estimated emissions must fall within the budgets set by State Implementation Plans (SIPs). He noted that the conformity determination receives final approval from the United States Department of Transportation (USDOT) on August 3, 2019.

Mr. Kovach mentioned that NOACA participated in an interagency consultation (IAC) call with local, state and federal partners on February 12, 2019. NOACA has been coordinating with the Akron Metropolitan Area Transportation Study (AMATS) and the Erie Regional Planning Commission (ERPC) since portions of those territories are part of the nonattainment area. Based on follow-up discussions, all partners agreed that NOACA could advance the conformity determination based on existing emissions analyses.

Mr. Kovach reviewed the following emissions and budgets:

- 2015 8-Hour Ozone NAAQS
(VOC and NOx Emissions for 2020, 2030, and 2040; and budgets for 2020 and 2030)
- 2008 8-Hour Ozone NAAQS
(VOC and NOx Emissions for 2020, 2030, and 2040; and budgets for 2020 and 2030)
- 2012 Annual PM_{2.5} NAAQS
(PM_{2.5} and NOx Emissions for 2020, 2022, 2030, and 2040; and budgets for 2022 and 2030)
- 2006 Annual PM_{2.5} NAAQS
(PM_{2.5} and NOx Emissions for 2020, 2022, 2030, and 2040; and budget for 2022)

Mr. Kovach stated that the conformity determination will be presented to the Planning and Programming Committee (PPC) on April 12, 2019, and if recommended by PPC, it will be presented to the Board of Directors for approval on June 14, 2019. He noted that ERPC and AMATS will take action to endorse the determination at their meetings in May and June 2019. Mr. Kovach stated that staff will forward the conformity determination to ODOT, Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and the United States Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA) for final approval.

A motion was made by Ms. Maribeth Feke to recommend the Transportation Conformity Analysis for the 2015 Ozone NAAQS Nonattainment Designation to PPC. The motion was seconded by Mr. Bryan Sokolowski. The motion passed by voice vote.

PRESENTATION / DISCUSSION ITEMS

2019 Subcommittee Focus Areas

Mr. Joe MacDonald reviewed the purpose, functions, 2018 focus areas and the following 2019 focus areas for the Air Quality Subcommittee:

- Air Quality Education and Outreach Program implementation (new)
- Signal Timing Optimization Program (STOP) (ongoing)
- Policies and strategies to manage urban sprawl (ongoing)
- Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality (CMAQ) program evaluation (new)

Mr. MacDonald stated that meeting agendas and materials will be crafted to accomplish the identified focus areas for the Subcommittee.

Air Quality Public Education and Outreach Strategy Update

Ms. Beverly Burtzlaff stated that NOACA worked with the Markey Group for two years to develop the Air Quality Public Education and Outreach Strategy and Communication Plan. She noted that the consultant submitted to NOACA semi-final versions of both documents. She said the documents will be reviewed, finalized and presented to the Air Quality Subcommittee before implementation.

Air Quality Awareness Week and Gohio Commute Outreach Efforts

Ms. Burtzlaff stated that U.S. EPA's Air Quality Awareness Week will be April 29–May 3, 2019. The theme this year is “Check the Air Quality Index (AQI) & Get Outside.” Ms. Burtzlaff said the big idea is to increase awareness of air quality and access to air quality information. She stated

that NOACA will promote the AirNow website, NOACA's Air Quality advisories/sign-up link, and talk to people about how they can help protect their health and help clean the air.

Ms. Burtzlaff provided an overview of EPA's AirNow website; showed a screenshot of NOACA's air quality advisory email; and discussed various communication / outreach tools that NOACA will use, and events / activities staff will participate in to help improve the air quality in this region.

Mr. Schroedel stated that the City of Broadview Heights would be happy to promote Gohio Commute and NOACA's events on its website and social media. He suggested that NOACA staff reach out to other cities, townships and villages to promote events and activities, as well.

Ms. Burtzlaff stated that staff will continue to do air quality outreach through Gohio Commute, meet with employers, participate in outreach activities and events, use social media, and attend speaking engagements.

Gohio Commute Update and Performance Measures

Mr. Kovach provided background on Gohio Commute. He stated that staff has created performance measures to track the progress of Gohio Commute. The performance measures cover four categories:

- User metrics
- Outreach and promotion metrics
- Systemwide performance metrics
- Platform administration and enhancement metrics

Mr. Kovach provided an update on the user and systemwide metrics (as of February 28, 2019):

- Total users: 6,045
- Total trips (all modes): 57,236
- Total non-SOV trips: 47,534
- Total VMT avoided: 459,892
- Total calories burned: 4,901,012
- CO₂ avoided: 117.13 metric tons
- CO avoided: 1,508.48 kg
- NO_x avoided: 276.80 kg
- VOCs avoided: 66.12 kg
- PM_{2.5} avoided: 15.62 kg

Mr. Kovach stated that 48 organizations have created subsites on Gohio Commute, bringing the total number of subsites/networks on the platform to 85. Mr. Kovach mentioned that the platform administration and enhancement metrics include 17 total challenges; 69 total events; and 28 employer/organization incentives. Mr. Kovach stated that NOACA staff worked with RideAmigos and the Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission (MORPC) to develop a specialized mobility search function.

Mr. Kovach stated that in February, NOACA partnered with the Greater Cleveland Regional Transit Authority (GCRTA) and Laketran on the Northeast Ohio Loves Transit Challenge. Participants logged 2,201 transit rides, saved over 6.5 tons of CO₂, and had an opportunity to win prizes. GCRTA and Laketran provided transit passes to weekly and overall winners.

Mr. Kovach stated that staff will continue to promote Gohio Commute to interested organizations, work with RideAmigos to improve the platform, launch the specialized mobility search function, and create new events on the platform.

Air Quality Forecast Accuracy (through February 28)

Mr. MacDonald stated that NOACA staff forecasts daily peak 8-hour ground-level ozone concentrations and fine particulate matter concentrations. In 2019, daily forecasts for ozone

began on March 1 and will conclude on October 31. Daily forecasts for fine particulate matter are year-round. NOACA staff posts daily air quality forecasts through AirNowTech, in affiliation with U.S. EPA.

Mr. MacDonald stated that NOACA's ground-level ozone (O₃) and fine particulate matter (PM_{2.5}) forecasts are based on a review of several meteorological variables and model guidance.

Mr. MacDonald reviewed the PM_{2.5} forecast performance for the NOACA region for January-February 2019. He stated that NOACA's forecasts for good/moderate threshold were correct 63% of the time and the forecasts for moderate/unhealthy threshold were correct 100% of the time.

Mr. MacDonald stated that staff will track the forecast performance of ozone for NOACA and NOAA; track the forecast performance of particulate matter for NOACA only; collaborate with NOAA personnel to report model performance in Northeast Ohio; and provide an update at the Air Quality Subcommittee meeting on June 21, 2019.

2019 Commuter Choice Awards

Ms. Burtzlaff provided background on the Commuter Choice Awards. She stated that NOACA is partnering with Sustainable Cleveland, GCRTA, and Laketran this year to sponsor the awards.

Ms. Burtzlaff reviewed the ratings for award winners; explained how businesses will be categorized for the awards; and mentioned that the Challenge will happen throughout the month of July, applications will be scored in August, and the Commuter Choice Awards will be given out in September.

Old Business

No old business was discussed at this meeting.

New Business

No new business was discussed at this meeting.

Adjournment

Mr. Brandon stated that the next Air Quality Subcommittee meeting will be held at the NOACA offices on June 21, 2019 at 9:00 a.m. There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:45 a.m.



NOACA AIR QUALITY SUBCOMMITTEE (AQS) 2019 Attendance Sheet

MEETING DATES	03/15/19	06/21/19	09/20/19	12/20/19
Samuel Alai – Mayor of Broadview Heights (David Schroedel, Alternate)	A			
Jeff Brandon, Montville Township (Adam Friedrich, Alternate)	X			
Mark Alan Carpenter, ODOT District 12 (Thomas Sorge, Alternate)	X			
James W. Dvorak, Geauga County Commissioner Nicholas Gorris, Alternate	A			
Maribeth Feke, Planning Director, GCRTA	X			
Tim Fischer, Ohio EPA (Corey Kurjian, Alternate)	X			
John R. Hamercheck, Lake County Commissioner (Daniel J. Gerson, Alternate)				
David G. Hearne, Cleveland Department of Public Health	X			
Lori Kokoski, Commissioner (Robert Klaiber, Alternate)	A			
Bert Mechenbier –Lake County General Health District				
Bryan Sokolowski Cleveland Division of Air Quality	X			
Sam Rubens, Akron Regional Air Quality Management District				

X - Member present

A - Alternate present



Air Quality Subcommittee
March 15, 2019, 9:00 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.

Member Sign-in Sheet

MEMBER	SIGNATURE
Samuel Alai – Mayor of Broadview Heights (David Schroedel, Alternate)	
Jeff Brandon – Montville Township (Adam Friedrich, Alternate)	
Mark Alan Carpenter, ODOT District 12 (Thomas Sorge, Alternate)	
James W. Dvorak – Geauga County Commissioner (Nicholas Gorris, Alternate)	
Maribeth Feke – GCRTA	
Tim Fischer – Ohio EPA (Corey Kurjian, Alternate)	
John R. Hamercheck – Lake County Commissioner (Daniel J. Gerson, Alternate)	
David G. Hearne, Interim Air Quality Commissioner, Cleveland Department of Public Health	
Lori Kokoski – Lorain County Commissioner (Robert Klaiber, Alternate)	
Bert Mechenbier – Lake County Gen Health District	
Sam Rubens – Akron Regional Air Quality Management District	
Bryan Sokolowski – Cleveland Division of Air Quality	

Agenda Item No. 2

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Agenda Item No. 3

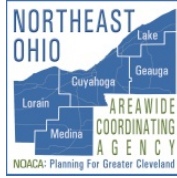
CHAIR/EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Agenda Item No. 4

ACTION ITEMS

Agenda Item No. 7

PRESENTATION/DISCUSSION ITEMS



NORTHEAST OHIO AREAWIDE COORDINATING AGENCY

MEMORANDUM

TO: NOACA Air Quality Subcommittee

FROM: Grace Gallucci, Executive Director

DATE: June 14, 2019

RE: Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Program

ACTION REQUESTED

No action requested. This item is included for information and presentation only. This item will be considered by the Planning and Programming Committee at its July 2019 meeting.

BACKGROUND/INFORMATION

In November 2012, ODOT directed the Ohio Association of Regional Councils (OARC) and its eight large Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) members to develop a statewide CMAQ Program. The intent of the statewide program, as directed by ODOT, is to reduce the amount of unspent funds and advance projects of statewide significance. Up until the formation of the statewide program, CMAQ funding was historically suballocated to the individual MPO programs by ODOT using a formula based on population within the air quality non-attainment areas.

The statewide CMAQ program has replaced the individual programs historically administered by the eight largest MPOs. These MPOs represent the greater regions of Akron, Canton, Cincinnati, Cleveland, Columbus, Dayton, Toledo, and Youngstown. NOACA expects to receive approximately \$25 million for projects for implementation in SFYs 2024-2025.

NOACA staff has initiated evaluation and scoring of each CMAQ application in accordance with the new statewide program policy project scoring criteria. The criterion includes:

1. Project Type (10 points)
2. Cost Effectiveness (15 points)
3. Other Benefits (15 points)
4. Existing Level of Service (15 points)
5. Positive Impact on Level of Service (15 points)
6. Status of Project (10 points)
7. Non-Federal Match Commitments (10 points)
8. Regional Priority (10, 7, 4, 2 points based on top four project priorities)
9. History of Project Delivery (up to -10 points)

FINANCIAL IMPACT

Projects selected for the region will establish the initial CMAQ budgets for SFYs 2024-2025.

CONCLUSION/NEXT STEPS

NOACA staff will finalize project evaluation and scoring and present the projects, along with input from the subcommittee, to the Planning and Programming Committee for recommendation at its July 12 meeting.

Staff will submit recommended applications to the Statewide CMAQ Program Committee for evaluation against other statewide projects in October 2019. The Statewide CMAQ Program Committee will then submit project recommendations to the OARC Executive Directors for final approval at their November 2019 meeting.

Attachment 1 – 2019 Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Program Applications

GG/rl/8162c

Attachment 1: 2019 Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Program Applications

Revised: 6/18/2019

County	Sponsor Agency	Project Name and Description	Primary Project Type	Total Cost	PE/DD/RW \$ Request	CO \$ Request	Total CMAQ \$ Requested*
CUY	BEDFORD HEIGHTS	RICHMOND ROAD MULTI-PURPOSE TRAIL One mile long 10' wide multi-purpose trail, adjacent to east side existing curb, along Bedford Heights' high density job corridor, from intersections of Richmond Rd. and Miles south to the Solon Corp Limit.	Bicycle	\$ 634,440	\$ 35,000	\$ 599,440	\$634,440
CUY	CLEVELAND METROPARKS	WEST CREEK GREENWAY Construct a portion of the West Creek Greenway from the Watershed Stewardship Center/W. Ridgewood Drive to Grantwood Drive in the city of Parma. This funding request entails building a new pedestrian bridge over W. Ridgewood Drive and installing +/- 0.5 mile of 10-foot-wide, ADA-compliant all purpose trail.	Bicycle	\$ 1,800,000	\$ 134,300	\$ 1,287,700	\$1,422,000
CUY	GREATER CLEVELAND REGIONAL TRANSIT AUTHORITY	GCRTA 2024-2025 BUS REPLACEMENT PROGRAM 23 replacement 60-Ft CNG buses for GCRTA's 3200 (16) and 3250 (7) series fleets (Only those vehicles included for FY 2025 in the GCRTA application - not the 45 40' buses requested for 2026).	Vehicle Replacement	\$ 20,750,000		\$ 16,600,000	\$16,600,000
CUY	GREATER CLEVELAND REGIONAL TRANSIT AUTHORITY	Blue and Green Rail Line Shelter Improvements Improve GCRTA Blue and Green Line passenger shelters at approximately 20 stations.	Transit Facility Upgrade	\$ 2,000,000		\$ 1,600,000	\$1,600,000
CUY	GLENWILLOW	BROADWAY-RICHMOND INTERSECTION RECONSTRUCTION PROJECT Reconstruct the intersection to widen Richmond Road, allowing a separate a thorough-left lane to both a through lane and a left turn lane as well as signal timing and drainage improvements.	Roadway/Signals	\$ 1,711,610	\$ 80,000	\$ 1,289,288	\$1,369,288
GEA	CHARDON	CITY OF CHARDON TRAFFIC SIGNAL UPGRADE Upgrade 19 signalized intersections within the City of Chardon into a modern, operation system.	Roadway/Signals	\$ 1,627,340		\$ 741,170	\$741,170
LAK	LAKETRAN	LAKETRAN VEHICLE REPLACEMENTS Replace 24 light transit/cutaway vehicles and 16 vans.	Vehicle Replacement	\$ 4,760,000		\$ 3,808,000	\$3,808,000
LAK	WILLOUGHBY	SR 91-SOM CENTER ROAD MULTI-PURPOSE TRAIL This 10' Ped/Bike Multipurpose trail will begin on SR84 at the Wickliffe border and proceed east to Halle Dr. where it will proceed north and east along the south side of Halle Drive. At SR 91 it will cross over to the east side of SR91 will proceed north to US20 / Euclid Avenue. Missing sections of sidewalks on the west side of SR91 will be installed at the normal 5' width.	Bicycle	\$ 2,307,163		\$ 1,845,730	\$1,845,730
LOR	LORAIN CO METROPARKS	SHEFFIELD VILLAGE CONNECTOR Connect missing links of French Creek and Black River Trails in Sheffield Village.	Bicycle	\$ 500,000		\$ 400,000	\$400,000
REG	NOACA	ELECTRIC VEHICLE CHARGING STATIONS Installation of electric vehicle charging stations at regional locations determined by NOACA's regional EV siting plan	Alternate Fuel	\$ 1,000,000		\$ 1,000,000	\$1,000,000
TOTAL				\$ 37,090,553	\$ 249,300	\$ 29,171,328	\$29,420,628



NORTHEAST OHIO AREAWIDE COORDINATING AGENCY

MEMORANDUM

TO: NOACA Air Quality Subcommittee

FROM: Grace Gallucci, Executive Director

DATE: June 14, 2019

RE: **Gohio Commute Update and Performance Measures**

ACTION REQUESTED

No action requested. This item is included for information and presentation only.

BACKGROUND/INFORMATION

In partnership with the six (6) other largest Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPOs) in Ohio, NOACA manages Gohio Commute, a multi-regional transportation demand management (TDM) platform. Gohio Commute, which launched in April 2017, serves as a one-stop-shop trip planner for the NOACA region, with connectivity throughout Ohio. NOACA has worked to engage businesses, local governments, colleges, and other organizations to create their own subsites through the platform. These subsites enable organizations to offer their employees (or students) targeted incentives to choose healthier, more efficient modes of transportation.

In order to evaluate the success of Gohio Commute, NOACA staff have developed a set of performance measures, which they track on a regular basis. These performance measures fall within four categories:

1. User Metrics – e.g. number of registered users, number of logged trips
2. Outreach and Promotion Metrics – e.g. number of Gohio Commute workshops, number of subsites created
3. Systemwide Performance Metrics – e.g. number of non-drive alone trips logged, amount of carbon dioxide (CO₂) saved
4. Platform Administration and Enhancement Metrics – e.g. number of map layers added, number of events created

From March 1, 2019, through May 31, 2019, 126 new users have joined Gohio Commute from the NOACA region, bringing the total number of users to 5,936. At the March Subcommittee meeting, staff reported 6,045 members in the NOACA region. However, in April, NOACA removed 294 users the Toledo Metropolitan Area Council of Governments (TMACOG) had added improperly to the platform. During the previous three months, users in the NOACA region logged over 5,904 trips, of which 92.3% were via alternative modes. This count brings the total number of alternative trips to more than 51,500 since the platform launched. Gohio Commute users saved

more than \$16,000 in commute costs and nearly 13 tons of CO₂ emissions during this period (more than \$167,000 and 146 tons of CO₂ saved since 2017). There are currently 88 subsites in the NOACA region, representing 51 different organizations. Moreover, users have created 18 challenges, 40 incentives, and 94 events on the platform.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

NOACA will spend \$7,500 on Gohio Commute during FY2019. Compared to OhioRideshare, the agency will accrue a net savings in operational costs of about \$4,000 per year.

CONCLUSION/NEXT STEPS

Staff will continue to promote Gohio Commute to interested organizations. Staff will also continue to work with RideAmigos to make additions/improvements to the user experience.

GG/tk/8163c



NORTHEAST OHIO AREAWIDE COORDINATING AGENCY

MEMORANDUM

TO: NOACA Air Quality Subcommittee

FROM: Grace Gallucci, Executive Director

DATE: June 14, 2019

RE: **CY 2018 Air Quality Trends Update**

ACTION REQUESTED

No action is requested at this time. This item is included for information and presentation only.

BACKGROUND

In its role as the air quality planning agency for Northeast Ohio, NOACA tracks, and provides, an annual update on the region's air quality trends and its status for the National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS). NOACA published the 2018 Air Quality Trends Report (CY 2017 data) in April. Staff will complete a draft of the 2019 Air Quality Trends Report (CY 2018 data) before the end of the fiscal year on June 30, 2019.

By and large, air quality continues to improve in Northeast Ohio. Below is a list of relevant updates to the NAAQS status and air quality trends for the three criteria air pollutants for which portions of Northeast Ohio remain in, or were recently in, nonattainment:

- **Ground-level ozone (O₃):** The United States Environmental Protection Agency (US EPA) designated Northeast Ohio (Cuyahoga, Geauga, Lake, Lorain, Medina, Portage, and Summit Counties) as a "marginal nonattainment" area for the 2015 O₃ NAAQS on April 30, 2018. US EPA based its designations on 2014-2016 3-year average O₃ data. Both Lake and Geauga Counties had design values in excess of the NAAQS.

The fourth-highest eight-hour maximum O₃ level in Northeast Ohio during 2018 occurred in Lake County. The O₃ value for Lake County was 76 parts per billion (ppb), above the 2015 NAAQS of 70 ppb. As a result, the three-year O₃ value for Lake County from 2016-2018 was 75 ppb. The three-year O₃ value for Geauga County and Cuyahoga County were 74 ppb and 71 ppb, respectively, placing them above the standard as well. Northeast Ohio experienced thirteen (13) days during which O₃ levels exceeded the 70 ppb NAAQS in 2018, up from just six (6) in 2017. We have not yet had an exceedance day through May 31, 2019.

- **Fine Particulate Matter (PM_{2.5}):** PM_{2.5} levels improved again in 2018. The highest monitored concentration in Cuyahoga County was 11.1 micrograms per cubic meter (µg/m³), down slightly from 11.2 µg/m³ in 2017. This concentration brought the 3-year average for Cuyahoga down to 11 µg/m³ from 2016-2018, keeping the county in compliance with the 2012 NAAQS of 12 µg/m³. Because the region met the standard for the first time from 2015-2017, U.S. EPA redesignated Cuyahoga and Lorain Counties as maintenance areas on April 12, 2019.
- **Sulfur Dioxide (SO₂):** Lake County was designated as a nonattainment area for the 2010 SO₂ NAAQS on July 25, 2013. The annual NAAQS states that a county's maximum three-year average of its 99th percentile of its daily maximum one-hour SO₂ levels cannot exceed 75 ppb. Lake County's annual SO₂ value rose to 53 ppb from 29 ppb, in 2018. Nevertheless, the three-year average value from 2016-2018 fell to 54 ppb from 66 ppb, ensuring the county remained below the 75 ppb standard. Ohio EPA initiated a redesignation request for the nonattainment area on April 8, 2018.

Cuyahoga County's annual SO₂ value was once again 41 ppb in 2018. Because the County experienced a significant spike during 2016 (370 ppb), its 3-year average of 151 ppb remained above the NAAQS. However, the region remains in attainment, as Ohio EPA and U.S. EPA collaborated to address the cause of the 2016 emissions spike.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

There is no financial impact.

CONCLUSION/NEXT STEPS

Staff will complete a draft of the 2019 Air Quality Trends Report (CY 2018 data) this month. Staff will also continue to provide relevant updates to the Subcommittee at future meetings.

GG/tk/8164c



NORTHEAST OHIO AREA WIDE COORDINATING AGENCY

MEMORANDUM

TO: NOACA Air Quality Subcommittee

FROM: Grace Gallucci, Executive Director

DATE: June 14, 2019

RE: **CY 2019 Air Quality Forecast Accuracy (through May 31)**

ACTION REQUESTED

No action requested. This item is included for information and presentation only.

BACKGROUND/INFORMATION

Each year, NOACA forecasts daily peak eight-hour ground-level ozone concentrations and fine particulate matter concentrations. In 2019, daily forecasts for ozone began March 1 and will conclude October 31, while daily forecasts for fine particulate matter continue year-round. NOACA posts daily air quality forecasts through AirNowTech, in affiliation with the United States Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA).

AirNowTech verification statistics show that NOACA staff categorical forecasts of fine particulate matter for CY 2019 (through May 31) were 68% accurate (Good/Moderate threshold (12.5µm)) and 100% accurate (Moderate/Unhealthy for Sensitive Groups (USG) threshold (35µm)).

AirNowTech verification statistics also show NOACA staff categorical forecasts of ozone were slightly less accurate than those of the NOAA 6Z and 12Z model runs against the Good/Moderate threshold (50ppb) and equally accurate compared to the NOAA model runs against the exceedance threshold (70ppb). Against the Good/Moderate threshold, NOACA staff predicted ozone levels with 85% accuracy compared to 89% accuracy for the NOAA model runs. Against the exceedance threshold, NOACA staff and NOAA predicted ozone levels with 100% accuracy. There have been no exceedances and no Air Quality Advisories issued to date.

For 2019, NOACA staff will provide NOAA personnel forecast verification statistics on NOAA model performance throughout the ozone season (March 1-October 31). NOACA staff will also monitor its own forecast performance through verification statistics and collaborate with other forecasters to improve its forecast protocol.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

There is no financial impact.

CONCLUSION/NEXT STEPS

Staff will consult with and update the Air Quality Subcommittee throughout this process.

GG/jm/8165c



NORTHEAST OHIO AREAWIDE COORDINATING AGENCY

MEMORANDUM

TO: NOACA Air Quality Subcommittee

FROM: Grace Gallucci, Executive Director

DATE: June 14, 2019

RE: **2019 Commuter Choice Awards**

ACTION REQUESTED

No action is requested at this time. This item is included for information and presentation only.

BACKGROUND

Since 2014, NOACA's Commuter Choice Awards have annually recognized organizations in Northeast Ohio that promote alternative transportation modes and foster behavioral change in their employees' commute choices. NOACA and its partners award top employers with Gold, Silver, or Bronze ratings based on employer support (policies, facilities, and incentives), employer location, and (starting in 2017) employee commuter behavior. NOACA also recognizes "best in category" winners: large business, small business, large government entity or non-profit, small government entity or non-profit. In 2019, NOACA is partnering with Sustainable Cleveland, the Greater Cleveland Regional Transit Authority (GCRTA), and Laketran to sponsor the awards.

NOACA is accepting applications for the 2019 Commuter Choice Awards from May 1 through July 24. During August, participating organizations will compete in a month-long challenge on Gohio Commute called the NEO Clean Air Challenge. This friendly competition, complete with an up-to-the-minute leaderboard, measures and ranks actual commuter behavior at each organization. Organizations whose employees log the most alternative commutes during August, on a per capita basis, will boost their overall Commuter Choice score.

In the fall, NOACA and its partners will calculate scores and select award recipients. NOACA and its partners will distribute awards at the City of Cleveland's annual Sustainability Summit on October 16.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

There is no financial impact.

CONCLUSION/NEXT STEPS

NOACA staff will provide updates on the 2019 Commuter Choice Awards as they develop.

gg/tk/8166c



NORTHEAST OHIO AREAWIDE COORDINATING AGENCY

MEMORANDUM

TO: NOACA Air Quality Subcommittee

FROM: Grace Gallucci, Executive Director

DATE: June 14, 2019

RE: **Corridor Recommendations for STOP Program**

ACTION REQUESTED

This item is included for information and input from the Subcommittee members.

BACKGROUND

Since fiscal year 2017, NOACA has administered a consultant contract to provide technical assistance to Northeast Ohio agencies to improve traffic signal operation on congested roadways. Since then, four corridors have been improved by retiming a total of 96 traffic signals in 12 different communities. The benefits of these projects over a five-year period are estimated as follows:

- Reduction of 12,630 metric tons of carbon dioxide
- Reduction of 1,637,000 hours of delay
- Reduction of 1,416,000 gallons of fuel
- Provided an average benefit-to-cost ratio of 28:1

Currently, NOACA's consultant is in the process of studying Chester Avenue between East 13th Street and Euclid Avenue, then along Euclid Avenue eastward to East 123rd Street, including a large number of adjacent intersections.

For the fiscal year 2020 Signal Timing and Optimization Program (STOP), the selection process has added vehicle probe data (collected by INRIX) in the screening, as well as all criteria used in previous corridor selections. Potential corridors for STOP consideration in fiscal year 2020 were identified using the following methodology:

Potential Project Corridors Selection Filter:

1. All non-freeway routes within NOACA region screened for "bottlenecks" in calendar 2018 as identified by INRIX, with the initial screening of the worst 100 locations further refined as follows:
 - a. Eliminated locations with less than 100 occurrences
 - b. Eliminated locations with excessive delays caused by known construction
 - c. Eliminated locations impacted by incidents
 - d. Excluded unsignalized bottleneck locations
2. Corridors were developed by starting with bottleneck locations identified above, then including adjacent road segments considering segment volume-to-capacity ratios and common sense
3. Define corridors based on:

- a. Length (minimum length of one mile)
- b. ADT (highest ADT within corridor at least 15,000 vehicles per day)
- c. Number of signals (minimum of 7 and maximum of 25 per corridor)
- d. Traffic signals per mile (minimum of 4 signals per mile)

Operational Ranking Criteria

- Average Daily Traffic (maximum within corridor)
- Volume-Capacity Ratio (maximum within corridor)
- Crash density per mile (based on all crashes over length of corridor)

Other Selection Considerations

- Average Daily Truck Traffic
- Potential for travel time improvement
 - Period since signals were last re-timed
 - Ability to coordinate existing equipment within corridor
 - Current or future construction projects expected to improve signal operation
- Presence of transit facilities
- Corridor spanning multiple jurisdictions
- Arterial is alternative route for incident management

Based on these considerations, the top corridors are:

Corridor	Description	Community
Mayfield Rd (US 322)	Brainard Rd to Hill Dr	Lyndhurst, Mayfield Heights, Gates Mills
Center Rd (SR 303)	Pearl Rd to West 130 th St	Brunswick, Brunswick Hills Twp, ODOT D3
Rockside Rd	Crossview Rd to Canal Rd	Independence, Valley View
Bagley Rd	Lindbergh Blvd to Pearl Rd	Berea, Middleburg Heights
Ontario/Orange Ave (US 422)	Prospect Ave to East 22 nd St	Cleveland
E Washington St/Medina Rd (SR 18)	Jefferson St to Windfall Rd	Medina, Medina Twp, Montville Twp, ODOT D3
Mentor Ave (US 20)	SR 306 to Old Johnnycake Rd	Mentor
Ridge Rd	Pearl Rd to Denison/West 73 rd St	Brooklyn, Cleveland, Parma
Warrensville Center Road	Libby Rd to Shaker Blvd	Warrensville Heights, North Randall, Highland Hills, Maple Hts
Broadway Ave (SR 14)	East 131 st St to Warrensville Center Rd	Garfield Hts, Maple Hts, Bedford

At the meeting, the results of the analyses will be presented. The final FY 2020 corridor(s) will be selected based on the operational criteria, emissions reductions, and Subcommittee input.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

The funding for the STOP program is provided from the Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality (CMAQ) program.

CONCLUSION/NEXT STEPS

NOACA will reach out to jurisdictions identified by the screening process to confirm interest and willingness to participate in the STOP Program. An RFP will be developed to be advertised in September-October to allow work to begin on the next corridors in the spring.

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Agenda Item No. 6

OLD BUSINESS

Agenda Item No. 7

NEW BUSINESS

Agenda Item No. 8

ADJOURN

